

*Sending on behalf of the County of San Diego, Long-Term Care and Residential Care
Facilities Sector, COVID-19 Response*



Friday, June 4, 2021

Greetings Long-Term Care and Residential Care Facilities of San Diego County,

Please find information below regarding the latest guidance and resources from county, state, and federal organizations, including **new updates**:

- [Health Advisory Update #35: Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Update Myocarditis and Pericarditis after Receipt of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [AFL 21-17 Expiration of Concentra Contract for Fit-Testing Services](#) - notifies skilled nursing facilities that the Concentra contract, used to request fit-testing resources, will expire June 30, 2021.
- [AFL 20-22.8 Guidance for Limiting the Transmission of COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Facilities](#) - authorizes LTC facilities to temporarily modify their facility's visitation policies in accordance with CMS and CDC COVID-19 guidance when necessary to protect the health and safety of residents, staff, and the public. It provides additional CDPH guidance for group activities and communal dining based upon vaccination status of residents.
- [AFL 20-32.3 Suspension of Regulatory Enforcement of Specified Skilled Nursing Facility Requirements](#) - provides advance notice that effective July 17, 2021, the temporary

waiver of specified regulatory requirements in this AFL will expire and this AFL will be rescinded.

- [AFL 20-34.4 Suspension of Regulatory Enforcement of Specified ADHC Requirements](#) - this revision notifies ADHCs that the waiver allowing ADHCs to provide services using alternate methods including remote services contained in this AFL is valid until the end of the public health emergency.
- [AFL 21-16 Hot Summer Weather Advisory](#) - reminds health care facilities to implement recommended precautionary measures to keep individuals safe and comfortable during extremely hot weather.
- [PIN 21-27-ASC](#) reminds Adult and Senior Care (ASC) licensees of mandated reporter requirements under the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act.
- [PIN 21-06-CCLD New Forms for Complainant Intake and Reporting Notifications](#) - announces a new form for communicating with the complainant about complaint intake, and three new forms for communicating the investigation determination
- CDSS announced the [Summer 2021 Quarterly Update](#) has been published and is available on their website
- New Location: Monoclonal Antibody Regional Center ([MARC](#)s) now open at the Palomar Health/Pomerado Pavillion in Poway to provide combination therapy to treat medically eligible COVID-19 positive patients

Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) continues to have supplies of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) available for all CCLD licensed facilities. This includes hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, masks, gowns, and gloves. If licensees are interested, please reach out to your Licensing Program Analyst to arrange pick-up or contact the local office at (619) 767-2300 or cclascpsandiegoro@dss.ca.gov.

As a reminder, if you have a positive COVID-19 case at your facility, please report it by calling the County of San Diego Public Health Epidemiology Unit at (619) 692-8499 or (858) 565-5255 for after-hours or on the weekend. The County as well as your State licensing departments are here to support you.

Email us at moc.logs.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov if you need personal protective equipment. For other questions, please feel free to email us at COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov or visit our webpage at www.coronavirus-sd.com/LTC.

Thank you for your continued efforts and partnership with the County of San Diego!

UPCOMING TELEBRIEFINGS



Long-Term Care and Residential Care Facilities Sector

Next telebriefing will be held on **Thursday, June 10, 2:00 - 3:00 PM.**

[Zoom Meeting Link \(click here\)](#)

[Submit Telebriefing Questions \(click here\)](#)

Older Adult and Disability Sector

Next telebriefing will be held on the 3rd Friday of the month on June 18 from 3:00 - 4:00 PM.

[Zoom Meeting Link \(click here\)](#)

[Submit Telebriefing Questions \(click here\)](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

California Health Action Network San Diego Health Advisory Updates

New! [Health Advisory Update #35: Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Update Myocarditis and Pericarditis after Receipt of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is investigating recent reports of myocarditis and pericarditis in young adults and adolescents shortly after receipt of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines.
- Cases of myocarditis and pericarditis following COVID-19 vaccination should be promptly reported.
- COVID-19 immunization is still recommended for persons 12 years of age and older.

[To view all CAHANs, click here.](#)



California Department of Public Health

CDPH publishes news and All Facilities Letters (AFLs) regularly. If you would like to receive email notifications of AFLs, please submit your request to LNCPolicy@cdph.ca.gov.

New! [AFL 21-17](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities – June 3, 2021

Notifies skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) that the Concentra contract, used to request fit-testing resources, will expire June 30, 2021. All fit-testing services provided by Concentra must be completed by that date.

New! [AFL 20-22.8](#) to Long-Term Care Facilities– June 2, 2021

Authorizes LTC facilities to temporarily modify their facility's visitation policies in accordance with CMS and CDC COVID-19 guidance when necessary to protect the health and safety of residents, staff, and the public. It provides additional CDPH guidance for group activities and communal dining based upon vaccination status of residents.

New! [AFL 20-32.3](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities – June 2, 2021

This AFL provides advance notice that effective July 17, 2021, the temporary waiver of specified regulatory requirements in this AFL will expire and this AFL will be rescinded.

New! [AFL 20-34.4](#) to Adult Day Health Care Centers – June 2, 2021

Notifies ADHCs that the waiver allowing ADHCs to provide services using alternate methods including remote services contained in this AFL is valid until the end of the public health emergency.

New! [AFL 21-16](#) to All Facilities - May 28, 2021

Reminds health care facilities to implement recommended precautionary measures to keep individuals safe and comfortable during extremely hot weather.

[AFL 21-15](#) to All Facilities– May 13, 2021

Informs facilities that the Statewide Logistics Task Force has authorized all healthcare providers and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) responders to use the state inventory of PPE to request a 30-day sustainment supply of PPE. This is currently a one-time initiative planned to end June 15, 2021.

[AFL 21-14](#) to All Intermediate Care Facilities/Developmentally Disabled– May 13, 2021

Notifies all ICF/DD-H-N-CN facilities of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance for improving their infection control and prevention practices to prevent the transmission of COVID-19, including guidance for visitation.

[CDPH COVID-19 Toolkit](#) serves as a one-stop-shop for partners to access materials available for download and sharing in support of outreach and education. This toolkit has numerous videos, social media messages, infographics, handouts, fact sheets, and more.

[Click here to see a full list of recent AFLs](#)



California Department of Social Services

The Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) of the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) publishes [Provider Information Notices \(PINs\)](#) to communicate important license related information to CCLD-licensed providers. The local San Diego Adult and Senior Care Regional Office can be reached at (619) 767-2300 or CCLASCPSanDiegoRO@dss.ca.gov.

New! [PIN 21-27-ASC](#) (June 2, 2021) reminds Adult and Senior Care (ASC) licensees of mandated reporter requirements under the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act. The PIN includes requirements for abuse reporting, a signed employee acknowledgement of mandated reporter status, and information about required abuse training.

New! [PIN 21-06-CCLD](#) (June 1, 2021) announces a new form for communicating with the complainant about complaint intake, and three new forms for communicating the investigation determination, all of which replace the Complaint Response (LIC 856) form. A revised Communication with Complainants Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is also released in conjunction with the new forms. This PIN supersedes [PIN 19-01-CCLD](#) in its entirety.

New! CDSS announced the [Summer 2021 Quarterly Update](#) has been published and is available on their [website](#)

[PIN 21-26-ASC](#) - Informational Call on May 21, 2021: Updated Guidance on Return Towards Normal In Adult and Senior Care Facilities – [Power Point Slides](#). This informational call focused on updates to the statewide waiver related to visitation, communal dining, group activities, residents returning from outings, and entertainment.

[PIN 21-17.2-ASC](#) (May 14, 2021) PIN 21-17.2-ASC supersedes PIN 21-17.1-ASC, dated April 23, 2021, providing specific updates to the statewide waiver related to visitation, communal dining, group activities, residents returning from outings, and entertainment. PIN 21-17.2-ASC maintains guidance from PIN 21-17.1-ASC related to new admissions. Underlined text in this PIN indicates where updates have been made to PIN 21-17.1-ASC.

[PIN 21-25-ASC](#) (May 3, 2021) announces that annual inspections utilizing the infection control domain will be conducted onsite in adult and senior care facilities beginning May 10, 2021. Additional resources for Community Care Licensing - Inspection Process -Adult and Senior Care Inspection Tools with Infection Control Domain is available [here](#).

[Click here to browse the full list of recent PINs](#)



THE LTC FACILITY INFECTION PREVENTIONIST CONFERENCE

Friday, July 30, 2021 – 10:00AM to 1:00PM

In the previous year, the COVID-19 pandemic has magnified the need for infection preventionist in the most vulnerable healthcare settings. This year, federal regulations will have a considerable impact on how long-term care facilities address infection prevention and control. To help prepare these facilities for the change and provide a network of resources, San Diego & Imperial County Association of Professionals in Infection Control (APIC) will provide healthcare professionals working in long-term care facilities with infection prevention and control information that are both elementary and unique to the LTCF practice setting. Please join San Diego & Imperial County APIC at this half-day conference offering.

Accreditation Statement: This activity is provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider No. CEP 3947 for a maximum of 2.0 contact hours.

To learn more or to register, [click here](#).



HOST A VACCINE EVENT

The County of San Diego is increasing access to COVID-19 vaccines by working with partners and stakeholders to host vaccination events.

Please submit a completed [form](#) with information about your prospective vaccination event.

- County staff or a partner organization will review the information submitted and respond within 5 business days.
- Please note, we will do our best to accommodate preferences but we cannot guarantee that all preferences will be met.

For questions please reach out to Covidtreatment@sdcountry.ca.gov.



Early Treatment for COVID-19 at the Monoclonal Antibody Regional Centers (MARC)s

The Monoclonal Antibody Regional Centers ([MARC](#)s) are providing combination therapy to treat medically eligible COVID-19 positive patients whose COVID-19 symptoms developed within the last 10 days. Treatment is available at **no-cost** to those who live or work in San Diego County, regardless of health insurance or immigration status.

- **New! Poway Location: Palomar Health/Pomerado Pavilion**, 15611 Pomerado Rd, Ste 545, Poway, CA 92064; open seven days a week from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM
- **Chula Vista Location:** at San Ysidro Health, 391 Oxford Street, Chula Vista, CA 91911 (in the former Chula Vista Fire Station #5 building); open seven days a week from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- Providers and individuals may refer patients or self-refer to either site by calling 619-685-2500 with questions and/or to schedule an appointment directly

For questions, please email COVIDtreatment@sdcounty.ca.gov. For additional information, please visit www.sandiegocounty.gov/COVIDHealthProfessionals. Patient flyer links [MARC Patient Flyer \(English\)](#), [MARC Patient Flyer \(Spanish\)](#)



Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Visitation Guidance for Skilled Nursing Facilities

On May 11, 2021, CMS published an interim final rule with comment period (IFC). This rule establishes **Long-Term Care (LTC) Facility Vaccine Immunization Requirements for Residents and Staff**. This includes new requirements for educating residents or resident representatives and staff regarding the benefits and potential side effects associated with the COVID-19 vaccine, and offering the vaccine. Furthermore, LTC facilities must report COVID-19 vaccine and therapeutics treatment information to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).

- Transparency: CMS will post the new information reported to the NHSN for viewing by facilities, stakeholders, or the general public on CMS's COVID-19 Nursing Home Data website.
- Updated Survey Tools: CMS has updated tools used by surveyors to assess compliance with these new requirements. For details, please see [QSO-21-19-NH \(cms.gov\)](#)

Revised: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services revised Skilled Nursing Facilities visitation guidance – April 27, 2021. For details, please see [QSO-20-39-NH Revised \(cms.gov\)](#) It is recommended to **follow the strictest guidance** when there is a discrepancy. Please always consult with your local licensing staff if you have questions.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidelines for Fully Vaccinated Individuals to Safely Visit with Others

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance for fully vaccinated individuals and visitation – May 13, 2021. [When You've Been Fully Vaccinated | CDC](#). Fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance. These recommendations

can help you make decisions about daily activities after you are fully vaccinated. They are not intended for [healthcare settings](#). Please always consult with your local licensing staff if you have questions.



County of San Diego Public Health Orders

[Public Health Order](#) - Updated 5/6/21: Please review the entire document to see all of the updated sections highlighted in yellow. Visitation aligns with and will defer to the most recent guidance by CDPH and CDSS.

California COVID-19 Vaccination Program Update Federal Retail Pharmacy Program Activation

The [Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination](#) program includes 21 participating national pharmacy partners that provide COVID-19 vaccinations at retail pharmacy locations. There are also [Long-term Care Pharmacies](#) distributing the COVID-19 vaccine through this program. Target population includes people 65+ and healthcare workers. Appointments will be required. Eligible Californians should NOT contact individual stores for appointments or come to the store seeking a vaccination without an appointment. For questions, please email: COVIDvaccinePharm@cdph.ca.gov Eligible individuals should be directed to the following scheduling links below for an appointment:

CVS: <https://www.cvs.com/immunizations/covid-19-vaccine>

Rite Aid: <https://www.riteaid.com/pharmacy/covid-qualifier>

Walgreens: <https://www.walgreens.com/topic/promotion/covid-vaccine.jsp>

Albertsons: <https://www.albertsons.com/pharmacy/covid-19.html>

Additionally for CVS only, appointment can also be scheduled via CVS pharmacy app and eligible individuals without internet access can call **CVS at 800-746-7287** for assistance on scheduling.

COVID-19 Vaccine Resources for Long-Term Care Facilities

Stay informed about COVID-19 vaccination information by bookmarking the [County COVID-19 vaccine webpage](#). Please continue to share the County [COVID-19 Vaccine webpage for appointments](#) with your staff and ambulatory residents.

COVID-19 vaccine presentations are available and delivered by volunteer medical professionals, including doctors and nurses, who are subject matter experts. Fill out an [online interest form](#) to request a presentation. [COVID-19 Vaccine – Myth vs. Fact](#) are available in English and Spanish.

The County's webpage with COVID-19 educational materials are available in different languages. [Click here](#) and scroll down the list of options in Spanish, Tagalog, Arabic, Aramaic, Chinese, Farsi, Japanese, Vietnamese, Korean, and more. The County COVID-19 [Information and Resources in Other Languages](#) webpage is a great resource.

[COVID-19 Vaccine Community Conversation Toolbox](#) is primarily for healthcare workers (doctors and nurses who have been identified as trusted messengers of COVID-19 vaccine information) to have conversations about the COVID-19 vaccine. Fact sheets, links to important websites, handouts, and Frequently Asked Questions are included. [Click here](#) for some CDC vaccine considerations.

Post Vaccine Considerations for Residents — While [this guidance](#) is intended for long-term care facilities, it could also be applied to patients in other healthcare settings. Considerations are based on the current understanding of signs and symptoms following COVID-19 vaccination, including timing and duration, and might change as experience with the vaccine accumulates.

Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination in Long-Term Care Facilities (LTCF) — Making sure LTCF residents can receive COVID-19 vaccination as soon as vaccine is available will help save the lives of those who are most at risk of dying from COVID-19. CDC updates [frequently asked questions](#) for Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control and Healthcare Professionals regularly based on feedback from professionals on the ground.

Importance of COVID-19 Vaccination for Residents of Long-term Care Facilities — This guidance has been updated to include long-term care consent information for COVID-19 vaccination. To learn more visit, [Vaccinating Long-Term Care Facility Residents](#).

ONGOING PROGRAMS, SERVICES, and RESOURCES

[COVID-19 Watch Surveillance Report](#)

[COVID-19 Testing Information & Resources](#)

[CDC Guidance and Resources for Infection Control in Facilities](#)

[Triggers Dashboard: Testing Positivity Rate Item #10](#)



Our mailing address is:

COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov

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